

CLEVER STORY IN MUSICAL COMEDY

"Miss Dolly Dimples" Has Plot That Is Said to Be Very Entertaining.

REHEARSALS PROGRESSING

Cast Is Entering Work With Much Enthusiasm—Production Is for Y. M. C. A. Benefit.

Rehearsals for "Miss Dolly Dimples" are progressing rapidly and with lots of enthusiasm. The interest which is being shown in the play and the large number who are taking part is most gratifying to the committee and to Miss Moorehead, under whose direction the play is being staged. Miss Moorehead left last evening for Madison, Wis., where she will play on Monday and Tuesday, returning to Rock Island on Thursday to take up rehearsals again. The choruses and cast have worked so hard and faithfully for the last week that it will be a pleasant breathing spell and a chance to learn lines and songs without mistake.

Plenty of Comedy. The story of the comedy is not of the kind that makes the chills run up and down one's spine, yet it has enough plot to keep one wondering what is coming next. Jack and Betty, having read of the mythical pot of gold at the end of the rainbow, equip an expedition to find it. They are interrupted by their nurse, who persuades them to remain at home by telling them the story of the "Big Swamp Bogie Man." They are taken off to bed, and Rolly and Bess enter, reading a letter announcing the visit of a count to their uncle, Mr. De Parks. The count is a suitor for Dolly's hand, and Bess advises Dolly not to be hasty in her choice, but to accept a Dr. Granville.

Bogus Count in It. Bess plans with her uncle to send a wild and reckless homely man to impersonate the count, postponing the real count's visit. The bogus count comes with his friend, the Wizard of Oz, and a reception is given in their honor, where the count is very clumsy and Oz very funny. In the meantime the real count arrives on the scene to complicate matters. Will Williams, the colored valet, sees through the plot and has a lot of fun by himself watching the difficult situations. Everything clears up, however, in the way that plays have, and it is discovered that the real count passes himself off as the bogus count. Everyone is amused by the affair, and Dolly and Bess both satisfied with the way things turn out. The parts are played in a very realistic and lively manner by a local cast.

St. Lawrence River Closed. Montreal, Dec. 5.—The St. Lawrence has been closed to navigation for the winter.

EMPIRE THEATRE
2 SHOWS TONIGHT
Last Time to See This Big Bill.
Entire New Show Tomorrow and the Greatest of the Season.
—DON'T MISS IT—
Three Nevaros, Brown, Fletcher Trio, Holden & Herron, Floyd Mack, Bobbie Gordon.
You are missing too many good ones—Don't miss this one.
ORDER SEATS NOW
Phone R. 1. 708.

Miss Jessie Bruce--At Illinois



Miss Bruce is one of the principals of the New York Grand Opera company, which is to present "Faust" at the Illinois next Wednesday night. A finished performance is promised.

The Theatre

ILLINOIS.
Dec. 5—First episode of "Zudora," Thanhouser serial.

EMPIRE.
Vaudeville—Two shows daily, 2:45 and 8:15. Three shows Saturday and Sunday. Change of bill twice weekly, Sunday and Thursday.

MAJESTIC.
Saturday—Daniel Frohman presents William Farnum in "David Corson."
Sunday—Ethel Barrymore in "The Nightingale," by Augustus Thomas.

Monday—Edmund Breese in "The Master Mind."

Tuesday—Bosworth presents Jack Conway and Myrtle Stedman in "The Valley of the Moon," by Jack London.

Wednesday—Cecil Spooner in "Neil of the Circus."

Thursday—"In Quest of the Sacred" and "Forcing the Force."

Friday—Clara Kimball Young in "Lola."

Saturday—Bosworth presents Jack London's "Martin Eden," with Lawrence Peyton and Viola Barry.

Dec. 13—Andrew Mack in "The Ragged Earl."

AT THE ILLINOIS.
The familiar story, "The Winning of Barbara Worth," with its granite cut characters and opportunity for atmospheric effects is neatly done into a three-act play the dramatization of which retains the most telling passages of Harold Bell Wright's novel. The play was seen at the Illinois last night.

The curtain rises on a prologue setting forth the essential features of Jefferson Worth's return trip from the east where he had been on a mission to interest capitalists in a big reclamation project, the dream of which

has fired his brain with its immense possibilities of transferring the desert into bloom by the damming of the Colorado river and its tributaries, and in which he is willing to stake his fortune and the best years of his life. The party is overtaken by a sandstorm in the center of the desert plains and the men, with their boomer wagon and mules, are obliged to make camp to the windward of some rocks in a gulch. They have but little water supply and that is needed by the mules upon which they depend to pull them through the wastes. Their sufferings with thirst is augmented by the collapse of a young engineer who has become loco from the privations of the trip and the sight of the unending desert. He wanders away from the shelter Texas Joe has led them to and that efficient son of the desert trails him and succeeds in bringing him back to the night camp. Texas finds him clutching an infant's cap and mumbling deliciously of the desert and a woman out there. Texas Joe and Pat Mooney, an exile Irishman, incur risk of death and search the sand dunes and find the woman, dead. In a wagon, sunken to its hub in the sands is her baby, faintly alive. Texas brings it to the sheltering arm of Jefferson Worth and the winning of Barbara has begun.

Eighteen years later, grown to young womanhood Barbara is typically vibrant of the out door life and broad expanses and her inner vision has grown apace. Filled with man's ideas as to what constitutes character, she lives a carefree existence under the guidance of her foster father to whom she is Dad's own girl in fact. The reclamation project, after years of patient plodding on the part of Worth, is commencing to take concrete form. The transforming of "the hollow of God's hand" is near when Worth is forced to abandon his share in it because of the rascality of the greedy financiers who make of it a sieve for others' money and construct a faulty piece of work unable to stand the strains of river fresher rampage.

The rest of the story converges in the battle of the giants—Worth, the conservator of right and Greenfield, the capitalist of wrong. A Mexican labor strike is staged and a wild dash to bring the pay envelopes across the desert makes a thrilling climax of one of the acts.

Leona Slater gives a breezy brightness to the part of Barbara and plays well the impassioned advocate of the square deal. She makes an effective picture in khaki, leather boots, spurs and other cowgirl trappings. The spirit of the west is in very capable hands in the cast of Texas Joe, portrayed by Ralph Theodore. He gives an exact cameo of the elemental strength of Texas and causes one to regret that polishing of the desert would make his kind extinct.

The company is evenly balanced and gives a beautiful picture of the country God forgot—and remembered. The scenic display is good. "The Winning of Barbara Worth" will be at the Burtis, Davenport, tonight and at the Moline tomorrow.

The remarkable characterization achievement by Richard E. Parks, formerly basso cantanta with the Savage Opera, of "Mephisto" in "Faust," which is to be given by the New York Grand Opera company at the Illinois theatre next Wednesday, has brought him inquiries from all parts of the country. The devil, as he presents him, has made an unusual impression, so that the common question is "where do you get your inspiration?"

Mr. Parks is a serious minded gentleman, a student, and obviously possessed of an unusually retiring disposition. But he has a vivid curiosity to see all kinds of human wheels go

SHOW M. W. A. IS REAPING SUCCESS

Figures Compiled at Head Offices Here Demonstrate Society Is on the Boom.

BIG INCREASE RECENTLY

First Eleven Months of This Year Entirely Eclipse Those of Last and Indicate Added Membership.

New figures compiled at the head offices of the Modern Woodmen of America in this city for the month of November bear out the statements that unquestionably the society is on the boom and the future holds much to stare for it, now that practically all discussion over the rate question has ceased.

In November of this year 3,744 new members were added to the roster of the society, which is considerable of a showing over November of last year, when but 2,574 were taken in. This is a net gain for November of this year of 1,170.

Other interesting figures based on the two years give 1914 nearly 900 majority. For the first eleven months last year the total number of new members taken into the society was 34,860, while for the first eleven months of this year there were 35,746, giving this year a majority of 886.

Excellent Showing.

One set of figures which shows that the society is rapidly increasing its membership is the record of new members made from July to November. Following is the list which shows the steady increase: July, 2,126; August, 2,719; September, 2,720; October, 3,369; November, 3,744.

New camps instituted during November were 34, while the number of camps established thus far this year over the number last year is 25. For the first eleven months in 1913 there were 344 camps instituted, and during the first eleven months this year 369.

It is predicted that with the figures of this month completed that even a better showing will be made.

round, and the propensity to study these wheels.

The writer happens to be one of those who put the usual question to the great basso, "Who is your model devil?" and received these definitions of the evil one and formulae for characterizing him:

"The devil is personified evil—thus an influence. When you look for 'him,' look for 'it,' and at your hand."

"It is the cruel, distorted mouth of the man beating his horses. It is the snakey fingers of the pickpocket. It is the smile of the painted woman. It is the gleam in the eyes of the crooked financier. It is the nerveless hand clasp of a supposed friend. It is the lie, the guile, the avarice, the threat, the curse—anywhere, everywhere."

"If I portray the character of Mephisto without a single guttural 'Ha,' or one grasping movement of the hands, or even a glance of triumph aside—the part could be made palpable to those in the audience who are in the habit of thinking for themselves. For Mephisto in himself epitomizes every element of dramatics without the aid of artifice."

"At the same time, the malignant triumph of evil is tinged with sorrow. The consequent pain of evil is felt even in the inspiration of the influence. The devil always knows that his structures are uglier than those of good influence; he appreciates fully that he can only destroy."

"Mephisto, as I portray him—is to some extent a man of sorrow. When his influence is contested, he shows triumph in his strength; but joy of success really means nothing to him. Mephisto, himself, is a drama."

"Before I come on the stage I imagine, in my part, that I have committed some crime for which I am to be forever a pariah. For this I am privileged to wear on society—to wreck other lives. To my work, then. This is all the more difficult, as vocally I must sing the beautiful music as beautifully as it is written, while my act—"

Ethel Barrymore Is Here in Movies



Miss Barrymore appears in "The Nightingale" on the screen at the Majestic tomorrow.

Mlle. Anna Pavlova--Burtis



Pavlova and her company are to appear in one tri-city performance this season. Four years ago the Russian dancer was seen at the Illinois with Mordkin. Dec. 28 she is to dance at the Burtis.

ing must drive the horror of the part home to the audience.

"My devil, therefore is possibly an unusual sort to the playgoer. The complexities of evil really make the story ever new."

Mr. Parks has performed the part of Mephisto more than 130 times—more than any other great basso in operatic history. Musical critics everywhere are agreed that it is a wonderful achievement vocally and histrionically. His sonorous, deep bass, reverberating in the incantation scene has sent shivers through great audiences in the opera houses of two continents, as it will again on next Wednesday at the Illinois.

"Smashing the Vice Trust" is the feature picture to be shown at the Illinois Sunday and Monday. Ada Patterson, the famous journalist, wrote of this picture: "The only fault I could find with it when I watched the marvel of the moving picture drama, 'Smashing the Vice Trust,' yesterday at Weber's theatre was that its title is not half strong enough. It should be called 'This is What Might Happen to You or Your Daughter,' and beside if there should be a pointing finger that would follow every woman in New York as the bullet hole seems to follow every one who sees the picture we all know of a masked man with a leveled gun. I wish that every girl and every mother of a girl in every city in the land might go to Weber's and see the pictures. They give in two hours an education and enlightenment a woman might not receive else in a lifetime."

AT THE EMPIRE.

The three Nevaros, pantomimic comedy equilibrist, and the Brown-Fletcher trio will be featured at the Empire for the first half of the week, beginning on Sunday. The Nevaros combine extreme skill in acrobatic work with high class comedy, never for a moment losing the interest of the audience as they go through their hazardous comedy stunts high in the air above the audience and in their comedy in stage acrobatics. Their ballet work is said to be wonderful. Floyd Mack is an acrobatic dancing comedian of act of startling originality. The Brown-Fletcher trio will sing the newest songs and do the latest dance steps. Holden and Herron, "The Messenger and the Show Girl," bring an act that has borne a good reputation over some of the best vaudeville circuits in the country. Robbie Gordon, in a reproduction of the world's greatest statues, will bring an act so decidedly new, novel and interesting that the offering is certain to score one of the hits of the bill. Added to all these fine features two reels of high class motion pictures and you have what appears to be as good a place to spend an evening as the tri-city's amusement market affords.

AT THE MAJESTIC.

It is not very often that the theatre-goers of this city have the opportunity to see such a noted actress as Miss Ethel Barrymore. Miss Barrymore's talent has been so widely recognized and her admirers have been so numerous that all her time has been taken in the larger centers. Now, however, by the enterprise of the management of the Majestic theatre, Miss Barrymore will show her wonderful acting and versatility to the theatre-going public of this city. Miss Barrymore will appear in "The Nightingale," a five-act photo-drama by the eminent playwright, Augustus Thomas. This drama was written especially for her by Mr. Thomas and the character portrayed by Miss Barrymore permits a great latitude and enables her to display her many versatility to the fullest extent.

The latest of the important legitimate actors to perform before the motion picture cameras is William Farnum, who, with his brother Dustin, recently attained a big dramatic success in "The Littlest Rebel." The play

DIVORCED AFTER WEDDED 41 YEARS

Woman Tells Court That at First Hubby Was Good but Later Turned Bad.

Mrs. Nellie Dahlstrom, Moline, married to Lars Dahlstrom in 1873, after 41 years of married life, this morning seated herself on the witness stand in circuit court and told Judge R. W. Olmsted that for the past five years her husband had been drunk and out of work. She was granted a divorce.

The couple were happy she said when first married but she stated that in later years her husband took to drink and that he was intoxicated most of the time. She said as a result of this, he lost position after position. He at first attempted to fight the case, but this morning did not put in his appearance in the court. Seven children were born to the union, all of whom are over 25 years old. Two testified on behalf of the mother.

offering this season is beyond question her greatest. Her scenery and costumes alone for her present tournee cost \$125,000. For the soiree alone, the evening gowns worn by Pavlova and her company cost \$15,000. They were designed and made by Paquin of Paris, perhaps the greatest style-maker for women in the world. Each gown is a model and the very last word in evening attire. The soiree is perhaps one of the most interesting and unique parts of Pavlova's program. During the soiree she and M. Ivan Clustine one of her dancing partners, assisted by the entire corps de ballet will depict all the ballroom dances from the stately minuet of a hundred years ago to the ultra-modern one-step and hesitation of today.

Pavlova has two principal male partners this year. They are M. Ivan Clustine director chorographique of the Paris opera house, and M. Alexander Volinine, danseur classique from the Imperial opera house, Moscow. M. Oukrainski and M. Koboleff, also have principal roles in the ballets. Mlle. Stephanie Plaskowicz, Mlle. Siasia Kuhn, Mlle. Svirskaia, Mlle. Crombova and Mlle. Butsova are among the principal women. Through special arrangements Manager Powelson will receive mail orders beginning at once. These orders if accompanied by a check payable to F. B. Powelson, manager, will be filled in advance of the regular seat sale. Prices for Pavlova will range from \$3 to \$1.

All the news all the time—The Argus.

THE ILLINOIS

TONIGHT
First Installment of the Great Thanhouser Success,
ZUDORA
Now Running Serially in the Chicago Tribune
Exceptional cast, including Marguerite Snow and James Cruze
Lower Floor 10c. Balcony 5c
Boxes Reserved

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Sunday and Monday—Dec. 6 and 7, Matinee and Night

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EXTRA—SPECIAL TONIGHT

THE MASTER KEY

By John Fleming Wilson. A thrilling story of Mystery and Romance, featuring Robert Leonard and Ella Hall. Love! Crime! Mystery and a Mine, every Sunday and Monday. These are the factors in "The Master Key," the master serial that will be shown in this theatre. There never was a picture story to equal it. It is presented in 15 episodes, released two reels every week. The Master Key will thrill you to your backbone; it will unlock every emotion in your heart. If you miss it, you've missed the best in the world. Also 3 other good features.

Majestic Theatre

The Only All-Feature House in the City—The Only Theatre in the Tri-Cities Playing the Full

Paramount Program

Which includes FAMOUS PLAYERS, BOSWORTH, BELASCO and LASKY Features. LOOK AT THESE OFFERINGS!

Tonight—"The Redemption of David Corson," a Famous Players-Daniel Frohman feature, with

WILLIAM FARNUM

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6
America's Most Prominent Stage Celebrity.

ETHEL BARRYMORE

In "THE NIGHTINGALE," a striking drama by Augustus Thomas.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 7.

The Masterful Dramatic Star,

EDMUND BREESE

In his original role as he played in

THE MASTER MIND

NOTHING BUT THE BIGGEST FEATURES AT THE MAJESTIC!

DANCING Coliseum Ballroom Saturday and Sunday

This coupon and 25c will admit one couple Sunday, Dec. 6, Free. Ice cream and cake.

Don't miss this, the best time of your life.

25c